

The newly created company will totally control high-speed affordable mass-market Internet access. People like me will face censorship on the Internet through the new company.

The Internet is a creation of America, and shows the world the power of freedom. It will be a sad commentary if the country that honors freedom kills the most powerful voice for freedom now existing in the world. It will be a horrific reflection on our country if all citizens of the world have freedom of speech on the Internet, except Americans.

I urge you consider me and millions of other individuals when you make your decision. If you do not, I believe that the result will be the death of the Internet, as a powerful force for freedom in general, and freedom of speech in particular.

Honorable Commissioners:

The Internet—as we know it—is in dire danger, and as members of the FCC you will make the decision on whether the 'Net lives or dies as we know it today.

From the time it was invented, as ASAPNET, the Internet has been a medium of free public exchange of information and content. Often this content has been useful in daily living, sometimes it has been controversial; occasionally, it has been offensive to someone or some entity. But I have had the freedom to post my ideas and opinions—MY content—without fear of being excluded from the Internet in any way shape or form or with censorship.

I will no longer have that right if I wish to have high-speed access via Time Warner/AOL's RoadRunner service. There is no cost-effective, high-speed access in the United States right now except for Time Warner/AOL's RoadRunner service.

Time Warner/AOL adds this clause to its "acceptable use policy:"

TIME WARNER COMMUNICATIONS SHALL HAVE THE SOLE AND UNREVIEWABLE RIGHT TO DETERMINE WHETHER CONTENT VIOLATES THESE STANDARDS.

The Time Warner Communication "standards" are such that absolutely anything I post could be considered to violate them.

Even if I do not violate these standards, if I purchase "unlimited access" as soon as I try to use it, I am either speed-capped or terminated. The acceptable use policy states:

IF TIME WARNER DETERMINES THAT THE SUBSCRIBER HAS FAILED TO COMPLY WITH THE SERVICE'S STANDARDS OF CONDUCT OR LIMITS ON BANDWIDTH UTILIZATION, TIME WARNER MAY SUSPEND SUBSCRIBER'S ACCOUNT.

It appears that Time Warner/AOL wants only customers who do not upload any comments and who use the service merely to purchase additional services. As I have been using the Internet for years to communicate—not spend money with Time Warner.

It appears that you will approve the Time Warner/AOL merger in some manner. If you do not act to require the merged company to return to the basic principles of freedom of speech, there will be no hope for people like me who want to communicate, not purchase Bugs Bunny cartoons.